



Arts Capital Grant Info Session

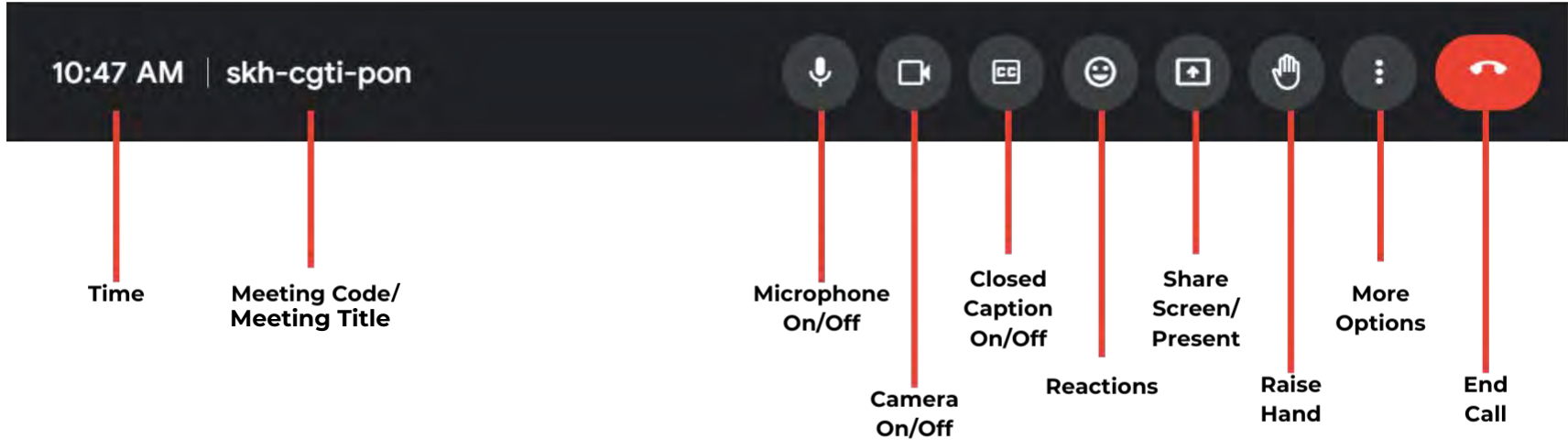
FY 2026 Grant Cycle

August 28, 2025 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

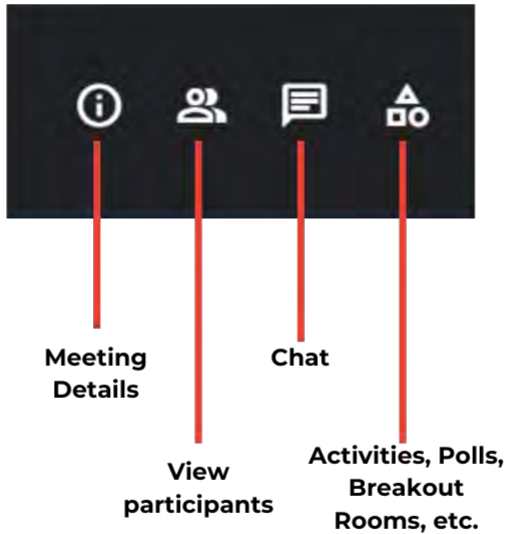
Hosted by:

Abby Neyenhouse, Arts Capital Program Director

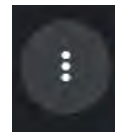
Reference Shot of Features (1 of 2)



Reference Shot of Features (2 of 2)



In "More Options"



- Change layout
- Full screen
- Open picture-in-picture
- Apply visual effects
- Turn on captions
- Use a phone for audio

- Report a problem
- Report abuse
- Troubleshooting & help
- Settings

Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the lands and waters now known as Maryland are the home of its first peoples: the Accohannock Indian Tribe, Assateague People's Tribe, Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians, Choptico Band of Indians, Lenape Tribe, Nanticoke Tribe, Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Piscataway Conoy Tribe, Piscataway Indian Nation, Pocomoke Indian Nation, Susquehannock Indians, Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee, and tribes in the Chesapeake watershed who have seemingly vanished since the coming of colonialism. We acknowledge that this land is now home to other tribal peoples living here in diaspora. We acknowledge the forced removal of many from the lands and waterways that nurtured them as kin. We acknowledge the degradation that continues to be wrought on the land and waters in pursuit of resources. We acknowledge the right of the land and waterways to heal so that they can continue to provide food and medicine for all. We acknowledge that it is our collective obligation to pursue policies and practices that respect the land and waters so that our reciprocal relationship with them can be fully restored.

Equity and Justice Statement

The arts celebrate our state's diversity, connect our shared humanity, and transform individuals and communities. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) is committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organization and across communities of our state.

MSAC and its grantees are committed to embracing equity and non-discrimination regardless of race, religious creed, color, age, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, class, language, and/or ability.

Vision

MSAC plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

Mission

MSAC advances the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

MSAC Strategic Plan - Pillars and Goals

Access

Bolster access to arts experiences and resources

Awareness

Amplify the stories of Maryland's arts sector and the value of public support

Connection

Foster networks within and beyond the arts sector

Equity

Cultivate a thriving arts ecosystem centered in equity

Leadership

Commit to a culture of care and innovation

Creative Meeting Actions

Celebrate being in the space with other creative people.

Engage with everyone's presence as a gift.

Acknowledge that together we know a lot.

Enter the conversation with curiosity and inquiry.

Share your idea and trust that it will be heard.

Use "I" statements.

Focus your language on the task at hand.

Hold one another accountable with care.

Honor all perspectives and build on shared ideas.

Balance speaking with listening.

Professional Development

- Info sessions
- Topic-specific sessions
- Coffee with the Council
- Office hours
- Maryland Arts Summit (visit mdarts.org)

Share your ideas:

<https://msac.org/contact>

See upcoming sessions on Eventbrite:

<https://tinyurl.com/pkw7pcrk>



Ways to Get Involved

MSAC relies on a diverse array of constituents from across the state to give input in a variety of ways.

- Panelists review and score applications
- Editors give input on program policies
- Schedule of public calls and details at msac.org/about/ways-get-involved
- Apply in SmartSimple
- Training and support
- Compensation provided for service



The screenshot shows the MSAC website's 'Ways to Get Involved' page. The header includes the MSAC logo, navigation links (ABOUT, PROGRAMS, OPPORTUNITIES, RESOURCES), and a search bar. A featured image of yarn is at the top with a caption about artist Gwen Handler and apprentice artist Winnie Dreier. The main heading is 'Ways to Get Involved' with a breadcrumb trail: Home > About > Ways to Get Involved. Below this, there are three sections: 'Public Calls: Paid Opportunities' with sub-sections for 'Panelists' and 'Editors' (each with a plus icon), and 'Employment Opportunities' with a sub-section for 'Current Openings' (with a plus icon). The footer contains social media icons, a 'Maryland' logo, and links for Privacy, Terms of Use, Accessibility, Careers, and Translate, along with the copyright notice: © 2023 Maryland State Arts Council.

Today's Agenda

- Arts Capital Grant Program Overview
- Eligibility
- Funding & Use of Funds
- Application Process
- Application Review & Scoring
- Approval & Disbursement
- Timeline
- Tips and Next Steps
- Q&A



Arts Capital Grant Program Overview

The purpose of the Arts Capital grant program is to provide eligible organizations with direct access to state capital funding for projects that **enhance or create complete, usable, and accessible** arts facilities.



Arts Capital Grant Program Overview

The Arts Capital grant program provides support for projects that involve the **expansion**, **renovation**, or **major repair** of existing facilities or infrastructure.

Projects focusing on the construction of entirely **new structures** are also eligible, provided they result in a fully functional, accessible, and usable arts facility within 2-years of fund disbursement.



Arts Capital Grant Program Overview

Projects that include the following are **encouraged** to apply:

- prioritize energy-efficient building methods and technologies,
- increase facility accessibility for people with disabilities, people of color, people living below the federal poverty level and/or
- expand an organization's programming and ability to serve a broader audience.



Arts Capital Grant Program Overview

Why MSAC has an Arts Capital Grant program

- The Arts Capital program was established into State Law under: Article Economic Development §4–514 in 2021, with program launch in 2024.
- The law states that the program will allocate \$3,000,000 of the Governor’s annual budget, for 5 years (FY2024 to FY2029), with the possibility of program renewal beyond that year.
- The funding for the program is derived from State General Obligation (GO) Bonds.
- The Arts Capital program provides a pathway for eligible organizations to request and access state capital funds through a predictable schedule and equitable review process. However the program does not prohibit an organization from receiving other funding.



Eligibility

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must meet the following:

- ❑ Nonprofit organization (*i.e., an organization with an IRS-designated 501(c)3 status*), incorporated and based in Maryland.
- ❑ Have an annual **operating** budget of less than \$3,000,000.
- ❑ Operate a physical property in Maryland that is either leased or owned by the applicant organization.

and either:

- ❑ Participate in MSAC's *Grants for Organizations or County Arts Development* programs, **OR**
- ❑ Be open to the public and provide arts-based cultural education or experiences.

Eligibility

Ineligible Organizations include:

- **Units of government** (e.g., town, city, county, state, federal)
- **Colleges or universities** (i.e., an established higher education institution in Maryland)
- **Schools** (i.e., a public or private school serving students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12)
- **Auxiliary non-profit organizations** (i.e. “Friends of groups”, economic development organizations, neighborhood organizations, parent-teacher organizations)

Eligibility

Ineligible Organizations include:

- Fiscally-sponsored organizations
- Past Arts Capital grantees that either:
 - Have not completed projects for which Arts Capital funding was awarded, including MSAC staff approval of a final report.
 - Have received \$500,000 in Arts Capital funds within a 5-year period.*

*Applicants that have been awarded Arts Capital funding within the past 5 years may not request an amount that would cause their total Arts Capital funding to exceed \$500,000 within that 5-year period.

Eligibility

Ineligible Projects include:

- Capital improvements to properties owned by **schools, school systems, colleges, or universities.**
- Capital Improvements to properties owned by the **State of Maryland Department of General Services** or the **Maryland Stadium Authority.**

NOTE: This information is offered as guidance and recommendations for FY26.

In some cases, MSAC staff might make eligibility determinations addressing situations not described here but in support of the mission of the agency and the Department of Commerce with the guidance of the Department of Budget Management.



Funding & Use of Funds

Funding for FY 2026

Arts Capital Grant

- \$50,000 to \$500,000
- No Match Required
- Funding is disbursed in one payment (100% of the award) after the grant has been approved by the Board of Public Works (BPW).



Use of Funds

Grant funds may be used for capital projects involving the **expansion, renovation, major repair, or new construction** of facilities or infrastructure operated by an eligible organization.

- Projects must result in a facility or enhancements with a **minimum useful life expectancy of 15 years**.
- Arts Capital funds may only be used for a **new project or phase of work**. Work that begins before the grant award and Board of Public Works approval is not eligible for funding.
- Up to 15% of the grant award may be allocated to indirect administrative costs related to the proposed project.

Use of Funds

- Exterior projects must either result in **expanded** outdoor cultural or arts-related programming space or infrastructure, or **directly improve** the building's physical accessibility or visibility.
- New construction projects must include a project timeline and outcomes that demonstrate the feasibility of delivering a **fully usable and operational arts facility** within the project's scope and funding support period.
- All project planning and implementation must adhere to local jurisdiction regulations, permissions, and permitting requirements for building-related capital improvements on public or private property. **Applicants are responsible for conducting their own research and ensuring compliance.**

Use of Funds

Arts Capital Grant funds **MAY NOT** be used for:

- Purchase of a building, land, or vehicles.
- Signage projects that are not connected or physically attached to the facility.
- Design services or purchases of equipment that are not part of a permanent capital improvement.
- Feasibility studies or master plans.
- Non-capital expenses such as research, studies, or pre-development costs unrelated to the capital project.
- Debt Service (i.e., mortgage, rent, or loans).
- Activities for the exclusive benefit of an organization's members.
- Institutional indirect costs in excess of 15 % of the total grant amount.

Use of Funds

Arts Capital Grant funds **MAY NOT** be used for:

- Expenses to further sectarian religious instruction or in connection with the design, acquisition, or construction of any building used, or to be used, as a place for sectarian religious worship or instruction or in connection with any program or department of divinity for any religious denomination.
- Expenses for activities or projects already completed at the time of grant application.
- Expenses for which the applicant has been awarded funds through another MSAC grant program. (i.e., an applicant may only be awarded MSAC funds once for any individual project expense; contact MSAC staff with questions).



Application Process

SmartSimple

- All applications must be submitted through Smart Simple (marylandarts.smartsimple.com)
- As an applicant, you will need to register (if you're not already) with Smart Simple to apply.
- To be able to access the Arts Capital application, you must be registered as an Organization.
- If you need to make an additional organization registration, you need to use a different email address.

Login

✉ Email

🔒 Password

Login

[Forgot Password?](#)

New to the System?

Register

Welcome to Maryland State Arts Council Portal

The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) encourages and invests in the advancement of the arts for all Marylanders. Its grants and programs support artists and arts organizations in their pursuit of artistic excellence, ensure the accessibility of the arts to all citizens and promote statewide awareness of arts resources and opportunities.

Google Chrome is the recommended browser for completing applications in SmartSimple.

Go to marylandarts.smartsimple.com to register and/or log-in

SmartSimple

My Applications

2

Opportunities



0

In Progress

1

Submitted

12

Approved/Declined/Closed

- Click on “Opportunities” on your Smart Simple dashboard
- Find Arts Capital and click the **“Apply Now”** button to open the application

SmartSimple

Application Summary

Application Summary

Send External Emails To: 23-d08445-1d9bc0-com2-d67e8d24@smartsimplecloud.com

GUIDELINES ORGANIZATION INFORMATION BASIC ELIGIBILITY SECTION 1 SECTION 2 SECTION 3 ATTACHMENTS ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES INTERNAL

Arts Capital Grant Guidelines

The purpose of the Arts Capital grant is to provide eligible organizations with direct access to state capital funding for projects that improve or produce a complete, usable, and accessible arts facility. This grant provides support for projects that include the expansion of, renovation of, or major repairs to a facility or other infrastructure.

The Arts Capital Grant Guidelines can be found on MSAC's website [HERE](#). Please ensure you have read the guidelines prior to completing an application.

Save Draft

✓ Submit

NEXT >

You have to click **“Save Draft”** to begin any application!

Application Process

FY26 Arts Capital Application Sections

Section 1: Mission Alignment and Project Overview

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Section 3: Community Involvement and Impact

Section 4: Required Attachments

Application Process

Section 1: Mission Alignment and Project Overview

- Applicant's **mission & vision statements** and an example of a recent success should provide staff and panel an understanding of your organization.
- Description of the **arts-based cultural education** or **experiences** offered to the **public** by the organization and the **audience/community served**.
- The high-level **Synopsis of Proposed Project** should be a one paragraph summary encompassing the purpose of the request for funding and the positive impact it will have on your organization, community, and or audience. (100 words max)*

**This statement may be used to summarize your proposed project to other state agencies. If awarded funding it may also be used for publicity and public announcements.*

Application Process

Section 1: Mission Alignment and Project Overview

The **Description of the Challenges** that the **proposed project will address**.

- Summarize the specific facility or space challenges faced by the organization. Describe how the project will address those challenges, support your mission and/or contribute to your organization's long-term success.
- *Examples include, but are not limited to:*
 - Challenges around physically accessing older buildings
 - Aging or outdated infrastructure or major permanent equipment
 - Changing spatial needs for employees and audiences
 - The need for expansion or build out of a new space to accommodate new audiences and increased programming.

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Project Location Information:

- **Project Location:** Is the address the same as the SmartSimple applicant profile? If not, list the address where the project will occur.
- Details: **Legislative district and latitude/longitude** associated with the project location
- **Property Ownership:**
 - Verify legal status of property (ownership/lease)
 - If leased must provide contact info for the owner and confirm lease agreement with 5 years remaining

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Project Planning Phase: What planning activities were conducted in preparation for this project or grant application? i.e., consultations, studies, identified solutions

Timeline Development:





- Provide a detailed description of the project and its intended outcomes.
- Describe how the project may be divided into phases of planning or work.
- How will the project team ensure the project will be delivered on time and within budget?
- Complete a project schedule table that aligns with narrative response.
 - In the case of large projects, specify which phase(s) of the overall project the Arts Capital grant will support.

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Timeline Table:

- Use the table to provide the schedule of activities associated with your application, in chronological order.
- Dates can be approximate and do not need to be exact/finalized.
- The schedule must reflect a project that, upon completion, results in a new or enhanced, usable, and accessible arts facility within the 2-year support period.
- Click the "schedule" button to provide to submit a detailed schedule of project activities.

Phase/Sub-project	Activity/Task	Description	Start Date	End Date
<input type="text" value="test"/>	<input type="text" value="test"/>	<input type="text" value="test"/>	2025-08-29 	2025-08-26 
<input type="text" value="test"/>	<input type="text" value="test"/>	<input type="text" value="test"/>	2025-08-27 	2025-08-26 

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Project Budget:

- Total estimated expenses associated with your proposed capital project.
- Arts Capital grant amount requested *This amount should match the total listed under "Total Expenses - Arts Capital Supported" in the budget chart.*
 - **The requested amount must be between \$50,000 and \$500,000.**
- Estimated Project Budget: Please complete the provided budget chart, providing a clear, detailed and realistic financial plan for income and expenses tied to the proposed project.
 - *Click the "Budget" button in SmartSimple to open the budget chart in a new tab.*

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Project Budget Chart:

Please complete the provided budget chart, providing a clear, detailed and realistic financial plan for income and expenses tied to the proposed project. Click the "Budget" button to open chart.

Project Expenses - supported by the Arts Capital grant

Type	Description	Amount
		\$0.00

+

Project Expenses - supported by other non-Arts Capital grant income

Type	Description	Amount
		\$0.00

+

Totals

	Total Expenses - Arts Capital Supported (Grant Amount Requested)	Grand Total - All Project Expenses
Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Project Budget Chart: Click the + sign to enter each expense line that is applicable. In the "Description" column, you must provide further information on each expense line.

Please Select		
Construction Cost	If a line is not applicable for your project, you do not need to include that	
Architect/Engineer Fees	on on each expense line.	
Equipment and Furnishings (fixed)		
Equipment and Furnishings (non-fixed)		
Administrative Costs related to this project (can be up to 15% of the grant request)	"Expenses - Arts Capital Supported" should match the grant amount you	
Information Technology	"grant amount requested" field.	
Audiovisual systems		
Demolition		
Other planning services		
Other construction expenses		
Please Select	Amount	
Please Select		
\$0.00		

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Project Budget:

- How did you determine that the costs are reasonable? List any quotes obtained.
- If the budget for the overall project exceeds the Arts Capital grant amount requested, please indicate how you will leverage non-state funding to complete the project by listing the other income sources as well as the status of those funds as either requested, pending, or secured.

Note: If the budget for the overall project does not exceed the Arts Capital grant amount requested, enter "N/A".

Application Process

Section 2: Project Plans, Feasibility, and Organizational Impact

Operational Capacity/ Project Team:

- Has the organization successfully completed similar projects in the past?
- List staff, board members, external partners and describe their roles in the project, how they were selected, and any relevant past experiences.

Organizational Sustainability:

- What impact will the project have on the long-term operational and financial sustainability of the organization?
- Describe projected cost savings, new expenses related to facility changes, potential new staffing needs, estimated new operational costs.
- How is your organization planning for managing those changes?

Application Process

Section 3: Community Involvement and Impact

Community Voice:

- Who are your stakeholders for this project?
- How have you engaged and collected feedback from these community members?
- How has the community impact shaped the project?

Community Impact:

- Describe how this project will positively impact your immediate and surrounding communities as well as the county the project is located in.
- Does this project address a critical need in your community?

Application Process

Section 3: Community Involvement and Impact

Accessibility Outcomes:

- How will this project enhance facility or program **accessibility for people living with disabilities**?
 - Please specify features, impacted groups, and how representatives from those communities were involved in developing proposed solutions.
- Does this project **improve access** to the organization's facility or programs **for people of color and individuals living below the federal poverty level**?

Application Process

Section 3: Community Involvement and Impact

Local Workforce Opportunities and Inclusive Hiring Practices:

- Will this project create new employment or workforce development opportunities?
- Describe your existing inclusive hiring practices.
 - How will you incorporate these or new inclusive practices in hiring contractors, vendors, and any new staff hires resulting from this project?

Application Process

Section 4: Required Attachments

- **2 Letters of Support**

- Local governing body representing the area in which the project will be located;
- State Senator or Delegate

- **Lease/Deed**

- Signed deed proving property ownership, OR a current lease showing at least 5 years remaining on the agreement from the date of the application.

- **Project Imagery** (architectural sketches, renderings, imagery of the site, or specific equipment): At least one reference image is required.

- **Organizational Documents & Financials:** Operating Budget, Financial Statement, IRS Form 990, 501(c)3 Letter of Determination, Audit (if org. budget over \$750k)

Application Process

Section 4: Optional Attachments

- **Letter of Support from the Property Owner** (Optional)
 - If awarded, property owners are required to sign Arts Capital grant agreements. Applicants applying for projects in leased spaces are strongly encouraged to obtain and upload a letter from the property owner supporting the project and Arts Capital grant application.
- **Project Quotes or Estimates** (Optional)
 - Copies of any quotes or estimates received from vendors during project planning.
 - *Note - While not required, we strongly encourage you to provide estimates or quotes that support your project budget submission.*



Application Review & Scoring

Application Review & Scoring

Staff Review

After applications are received, they are reviewed by staff for completeness and eligibility.

Applicants will be notified if their application is incomplete and if additional information is necessary; applications will be given a specific deadline in writing to provide any revisions and/or other necessary information.

Applications must meet all of these specified deadlines or the application will be considered incomplete and withdrawn.

Staff do not score applications, but provide support throughout the process.

Application Review & Scoring

Panel Review

MSAC convenes a group of panelists representing a range of expertise. Members from the public apply to be panelists and receive specific training about the program, implicit bias in grantmaking, scoring rubrics, etc.

Panelists review and score the applications assigned to them in 2 rounds. All eligible applications are reviewed by public panelists.

- **Round 1:** The panel independently reviews, scores, and provides comments; the highest scoring applications advance to Round 2.
- **Round 2:** The panel meets virtually as a convened group; presents and participates in discussion over each application; and has the opportunity to re-score the application. The Round 2 meeting is open to the public.

Application Review & Scoring

Panel Review

The panel uses the Arts Capital Grant Rubric to score applications. The FY26 Rubric can be found here: <https://msac.org/programs/arts-capital/arts-capital-grant>

FY26 Arts Capital Grant Rubric			
1. Mission Alignment and Project Overview:			
1A. <u>Alignment with Organizational Goals</u> <i>Refer to responses in the following section: Mission Alignment & Project Overview, specifically questions 1-4</i>			
The application provides a clear, specific, and thorough explanation of how the proposed project will facilitate the organization's mission.	The application includes a clear explanation of how the proposed project will facilitate the organization's mission.	The application indicates how the proposed project will facilitate the organization's mission.	The application is unclear in explaining how the proposed project will facilitate the organization's mission.
Excellent to outstanding	Good to very good	Satisfactory	Fair to Marginal
13-15	8-10	3-5	0-3
1B. <u>Identification of Challenges and Future Success</u> <i>Refer to responses in the following section: Mission Alignment & Project Overview, specifically questions 4-5</i>			

Application Review & Scoring

Grant Award Recommendations:

The panel's final scores are averaged and sorted high to low.

Scores and comments are taken into consideration for grant award recommendations.

At the discretion of MSAC staff, funding recommendations may be made for the full or partial request amount, depending on total budget available and eligibility review of expenses proposed.

Application Review & Scoring

Grant Award Notifications:

Notification

After application review, applicants will be notified of their status as soon as possible. There are three categories that applications will be labeled:

Pending Approval, Declined, Ineligible

Applications that do not receive funding generally fall into one of two categories: **ineligible or declined**.

An application is marked **ineligible** if it is not complete or does not comply with the eligibility requirements of a particular grant program. An application can be marked ineligible at any time during the review process.

Application Review & Scoring

Grant Award Notifications: Declined

After an application is considered eligible, it may be declined for several reasons. An application may be declined due to funding allocation limitations at the time, or for the following reasons:

- Required information is incomplete or insufficient to make an award determination
- There are material inconsistencies between the application and the organization's actual operations
- There are significant operational, financial, or other circumstances that reasonably suggest the applicant is, or may become, unable to use the grant funds in alignment with the grant guidelines and agreement.

Application Review & Scoring

Grant Award Notifications

The individual listed as the primary contact in the application will receive all notifications; for organizations, notifications will be sent to the primary contact and any other contacts on the organization's account. Automated notifications from SmartSimple will be sent from noreply@smartsimple.com. Please adjust email notification and security settings to ensure receipt of these notifications. Check your spam folder if an application submission confirmation notification has not arrived to your inbox.

Application Feedback

Applicants may request feedback on their applications—whether ineligible, declined, or approved for funding—by submitting a feedback request form, a link to this form will be provided in grant notification emails.



Approval & Disbursement

Approval & Disbursement

Process from Pending Approval to Disbursement

- If the application is selected for funding, it will be listed as ‘Pending Approval’ in SmartSimple until it is ultimately approved by the Board of Public Works (BPW).
- All selected projects complete Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) Section 106 review; and gain approval of the state Board of Public Works (BPW).
- Grant Agreements (GAF) are shared with grantees for signature.
 - “Beneficiary” Signature must be the entity that owns the property where the project will occur.
- Once GAF is returned to MSAC it is signed by Commerce Dept. team
- MSAC and Commerce Dept. package and submit grants for Board of Public Works meeting agenda item.
- BPW Meeting where grants are approved = Full approval

Approval & Disbursement

What happens after your grant is ‘Awarded Pending Approval’

Information for Awardees

Grantees of the Arts Capital grant receive funding in one payment (100% of the award amount) after the grant agreement has been signed by all required parties and the funded project has been approved by the State Board of Public Works (*unless otherwise stipulated by the State or Board of Public Works*).

The disbursement process for the Arts Capital Grant Program is unique and takes substantially longer than other grants administered by MSAC. The Arts Capital disbursement process begins when the GAF is fully executed and gains approval from the BPW. Applicants can expect a minimum of 6 months from the notification of grant status to receiving disbursement of your grant funds.

FY26 Timeline:

August 18, 2025:	Application Open
August 28, 2025:	Info Session
October 3, 2025:	Application Deadline
January 2026:	Panel Meetings
February 2026:	Grant Award Notifications
June 2028:	Final Report Deadline (Tentative)*

**Grantees are required to submit a final report at the completion of the funded project. The final report deadline will be shared with the grantees once funds are disbursed.*

Grant Support Period

May 1, 2026 - May 1, 2028*

- Arts Capital funds support activities taking place within two years of the fiscal year (FY) in which funds are disbursed.
- If awarded, grantees may begin spending and obligating funds after the grant agreement has been approved and fully executed by the BPW.
- Grantees agree to spend or obligate all funds by May 1, 2028, or within two years of disbursement. Obligation means that awarded funds are expended, encumbered, or otherwise legally committed to be used, such that returning the unspent funds would cause the grantee legal harm. Grantees unable to complete their proposed project within the support period should notify MSAC staff as early as possible.

**Subject to change based on disbursement timeline*

Tips & Next Steps:

Consider whether your arts organization fits within the eligibility criteria:

- Are you a 501c3 nonprofit organization, registered in Maryland?
- Is your operating budget below \$3,000,000?

Consider whether your proposed project fits within the eligibility criteria:

- Does the project improve or produce a complete, useable and accessible arts facility?
- Does the project include expansion, renovation or major repairs to a facility or other infrastructure?
- If you lease do you have a minimum of 5 years remaining on your lease agreement at the time of application.

Tips & Next Steps:

- If you answered YES, or maybe you're not sure...find a time to speak with program staff!

Abby Neyenhouse, Arts Capital Program Director

- **Schedule a 30 min virtual meeting or call:**
<https://calendar.app.google/me4ejo7Jyb4wiizu9>
- **Email** with subject “FY26 Arts Capital Grant Inquiry”
Abby.Neyenhouse@maryland.gov
- **Text/Call:** 443.904.6338

Tips & Next Steps:

Visit <https://msac.org/programs/arts-capital> for more resources!

- FY 26 Program Guidelines
- FY 26 Scoring Rubric for the Panel
- Link to past Arts Capital Professional Development Videos
- Link to the Legislation language
- List of FY24 + FY25 Arts Capital Awards
- And More!





Questions

Thank You!

Join our mailing list!



tinyurl.com/MSACsMailingList